



VETERINARY BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Washington State Veterinary Board of Governors was called to order at 9:00 AM on Monday, March 3, 2008, by William Keatts, DVM, Chair. The meeting was held in Conference Room One, at the Department of Health, Center Point Corporate Park, 20435 72nd Avenue South, Kent, Washington, 98032.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

William Keatts, DVM, Chair
Willard Nelson, DVM
Harmon Rogers, DVM
Timothy Gintz, DVM
Holly Bard, Public Member
Deborah Cofer, LVT

STAFF PRESENT: Judy Haenke, Acting Executive Director
Janette Benham, Program Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: Geoff Hymans, Assistant Attorney General

ORDER OF AGENDA

OPEN SESSION:

9:00 a.m.

Call to Order – William Keatts, DVM, Chair

1. Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as written.
2. Approval of the December 10, 2007, minutes
The minutes were approved as written.

Reports - Information

3. William Keatts, DVM, Chair
Dr. Keatts announced the Washington State Veterinary Medical Association meeting would be in Pullman on March 28, 2008. Dr. Rogers expressed an interest in attending.

4. Judy Haenke, Acting Executive Director

Ms. Haenke reported on the following:

Pending legislation update:

HB 1103 requires fingerprint based background checks, and gives the secretary authority over cases involving sexual misconduct unless there is also a standard of care issue. It also creates a pilot project for the medical and nursing commissions.

SHB2218 increases the penalty for violating the Open Public Meetings Act

The Spring Leadership Forum is May 8, 2008, in Seattle. Board and Commission Chairs and Vice-chairs are invited to attend.

5. Janette Benham, Program Manager

Ms. Benham reported on the following:

Recruitment efforts to fill two vacancies on the Board are ongoing. A list of potential candidates has been submitted to the Governor's office for review.

The American Association of Veterinary State Board (AAVSB) has scheduled their Annual Conference for September 18-20 in Newport Beach, California. Dr. Nelson expressed an interest in going as a representative of Washington.

6. **Correspondence**

6.1 – The Board discussed Washington State Veterinary Medical Association's (WSVMA) request for technical assistance from the Veterinary Board of Governors and the Board of Pharmacy to propose legislation regarding Licensed Veterinary Technicians preparing controlled substances. The legislative proposal would request limited authority for Licensed Veterinary Technicians to prepare controlled substances. The Board determined they would provide technical assistance to the WSVMA to draft the proposed changes.

6.2 - A request was made by the Washington State Department of Agriculture's Reserve Veterinary Corps Program for a list of all licensed Washington Veterinarian's. The request was approved.

6.3 – The Board discussed the species specific examinations available from the National Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for use in disciplinary cases and other purposes as determined by the Board. The Board requested program staff obtain copies of the companion animal test and the equine test for review.

6.4 - The Board discussed a request from the Point Roberts Horseman's Association to allow two unlicensed veterinarians to come to Point Roberts from Canada and provide care for horses. The Board members determined they cannot provide an exception for a veterinarian from outside of the U.S. to engage in unlicensed practice. The veterinarians would need to be licensed in Washington in order to provide any veterinary services.

7. Continuing Education

7.1 - A request for extension of reporting period was reviewed for a veterinarian who had medical emergencies in their immediate family. The extension was granted for 6 months.

7.2 – A request was approved for the Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Disease workshop to grant 5 hours continuing education credit to attendees. The workshop dates and locations are March 11, 2008, in Burien and March 13, 2008, in Moses Lake.

8. 10:00 a.m. Rules Hearing Chapter 246-935 WAC Veterinary Technician – WSR 08-02-089:

The rules hearing changing all references in Chapter 246-935 from “registered” or “registration” to “licensed” or “licensure” for Veterinary Technicians was facilitated by Dr. Keatts, DVM, Chair. No public testimony was received.

9. 11:00 a.m. Rules Hearing Chapter 246-935-990 WAC Veterinary Technician fees and renewal cycle – WSR 08-01-136

The rules hearing changing all references from “registrations” and “registration” to “licenses” or “license” when referring to veterinary technician fees and renewal cycle was facilitated by Jovi Swanson, Department of Health, Policy, Legislative, and Constituent Relations Office.

Lunch 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

10. Mandatory Reporting Rules

The Board discussed the Mandatory Reporting Rules hearing that will be held on March 12, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., at the Department of Health in Tumwater. A suggestion was made to change WAC 246-16-255 (2) (a) from “and” to “or” and will be forwarded to Margaret Gilbert, Senior Staff Attorney for the Department of Health.

11. Review of Procedure 205: Initial Assessment and Case Disposition Decisions.

The Board discussed the procedure and the need to consider prior discipline and complaints in disciplinary cases. The procedure provides form 205A that program staff will prepare when the board determines what step to take (close or authorize investigation). The board must then consider prior discipline and complaints. Program Staff will then prepare form 205B, Case Disposition Worksheet, which will provide guidance on how to proceed. All case disposition decisions are then recorded on form 205B. This procedure is intended to provide criteria for consistent, fair and uniform decisions and disposition of reports and complaints.

After discussion, the Board agreed to use the new forms.

1:30 p.m.

12. Rules Work Session

– Patient abandonment and facilities and practice management rules. Judy Haenke provided an update to these rules and stated that they are still in process would be presented to the Board for review before proceeding.

- WAC 246-935-050, Animal Health Care Tasks. The workgroup has a public meeting scheduled for March 20, 2008, to revise and clarify Animal health Care Tasks. Meetings will be scheduled as needed and a draft will be presented to the Board for approval.

13. Development of rules to implement House Bill 1331

- Dr. Gintz reviewed rules that are being developed at ongoing public meetings. The committee appointed by the Board will continue work on rules to define tasks to be completed by veterinary technician candidates in the period of practical experience. The rules will be developed and a checklist will be utilized to ensure candidates have a demonstrated knowledge of all tasks outlined in rule. The Board was in agreement with development of individual checklists to demonstrate practical experience.

- Dr. Gintz reviewed an example of a checklist the committee developed. Clarification was given that the supervising veterinarian would have to check off the tasks completed and sign an attestation on the form. After review and discussion, the Board approved the use of individual checklists to demonstrate the period of practical experience.

14. Specialty Licensure, WAC 246-933

The Board recently approved the Program for Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence (PAVE). The Board also approves the Education Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates (ECFVG) program. Both programs assess the educational equivalence of graduates from non-accredited program. The Board of Governors has authority to issue a specialty license and references the ECFVT program in the specialty licensure rule. The Board, at the request of Dr. Nelson, is now considering adding the PAVE program as an option under veterinary specialty licensure, WAC 246-933-300. The Board determined that rule making should continue.

15. Additional correspondence

The Board reviewed and discussed a letter from an out of state veterinarian who previously practiced in Washington. The letter addressed concerns regarding the complaint and investigation process in Washington and that the veterinarian did not feel as if they were ever allowed an opportunity to address the allegations in the complaint. The Board requested program staff respond with a letter to the veterinarian.

16. Open Forum

No additional comments from the audience.

3:00 p.m. CLOSED SESSION

17. Disciplinary Case Review

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

APPROVED: _____
William Keatts, DVM, Chair